



H.Res. 768– Honoring the life of Thomas "Tommy" Makem

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 768 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced on October 23, 2007 by Representative Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH). The legislation was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, but was never considered.

H.Res. 768 is expected to be considered on the floor on December 11, 2007.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 768 resolves that Congress honors the life of Thomas “Tommy” Makem, and his accomplishments as a musician, composer and performer.

BACKGROUND

Thomas “Tommy” Makem was born on November 4, 1932 in Keady, County Armagh, in Northern Ireland. He emigrated from Ireland to Dover, New Hampshire in 1955, after having won the All-Ireland Championship in acting. He wanted to pursue a career in acting.

In 1956 Thomas Makem joined the Clancy Brothers, all of whom had immigrated to the United States from Ireland, began performing musically together as “The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem,” and were signed by Columbia Records.

Throughout his performing career Thomas Makem was highly regarded as an exceptional musician by both his colleagues and the public. He received many awards and honors including the World Folk Music Association's Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999 and honorary doctorates from the University of New Hampshire in 1998, the University of Limerick in 2001, and the University of Ulster in 2007.

Thomas Makem died on Wednesday, August 1, 2007 in Dover, New Hampshire at the age of 76.

STAFF CONTACT

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